

Message Text

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72

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SY-04 USSS-00 A-01 IO-10 EB-07 SCA-01

AID-05 /084 W

----- 089058

R 181120Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9057

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUALA LUMPUR 0842

BANGKOK PASS SONGKHLA; CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, MY

SUBJ: COMMUNIST TERRORISTS ATTACK TRAIN IN PERLIS

REF: K.L. A-22, 2/13/75

1. ACCORDING PRESS REPORTS FEB 18, COMMUNIST TERRORISTS (CT'S) ATTACKED FREIGHT TRAIN AT 9:30 A.M. FEB 17 NEAR PADANG BESAR, MAIN BORDER CROSSING POINT IN NORTHERN PERLIS STATE. ABOUT 100 YARDS OF TRACK ON BUTTERWORTH-HAADYAI MAIN LINE WERE MINED; ABOUT 50 CT'S, INCLUDING FEMALE CADRES, AMBUSHED TRAIN AND ROBBED RAILWAY WORKERS. AMBUSH OCCURRED ABOUT 500 YARDS FROM ARMY RANGER BATTALION OUTPOST. COMMUNIST LEAFLETS, ATTRIBUTED TO "ONE OF THE BREAKAWAY FACTIONS OF THE MALAYAN COMMUNIST PARTY" (CPM) WERE RECOVERED AT THE AMBUSH SITE AS WELL AS AN UNEXPENDED M-79 SHELL.

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2. COMMENT: IT APPEARS THAT RAID ON TRAIN WAS WORK OF CT 8TH REGIMENT, NOW CALLING ITSELF CPM-REVOLUTIONARY FACTION (CPM-RF). AS NOTED IN REFAIRGRAM (P.6), 8TH REGIMENT AREA IN NORTHERN KEDAH AND PERLIS HAS BEEN FREE OF INCIDENTS FOR NEARLY THREE YEARS, ALTHOUGH THE BUTTERWORTH-HAADYAI TRAIN WAS AMBUSHED IN SADAQ DISTRICT, SOUTHERN THAILAND, ON DEC 9, 1973 AND A THAI BORDER PATROL FORCE WAS AMBUSHED THERE ON OCT 31, 1973. PERLIS RAID IS SIGNIFICANT, NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF REVIVAL OF 8TH REGIMENT TERRORIST OPERATIONS ON MALAYSIAN SIDE OF BORDER, BUT ALSO BECAUSE CT'S WERE APPARENTLY ABLE TO CROSS BORDER, LAY MINES AND BRING OFF AMBUSH UNHAMPERED BY MALAYSIAN MILITARY UNITS IN AREA.
UNDERHILL

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Message Attributes

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